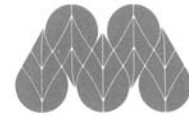




**City of Manchester
Fire Department**

100 Merrimack Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03101-2208
(603) 669-2256 – BUSINESS
(603) 669-7707 – FAX



Joseph P. Kane
Chief of Department

Life Safety Inspection

General Instructions and Procedures for a Life Safety Inspection for a Foster Care Family Home.

Obtain from the State of New Hampshire, a Foster Family Care License.

State of New Hampshire
Department of Health and Human Services
Foster Care Services
129 Pleasant Street
Concord, NH 03301
Telephone (603) 271-4711

New Hampshire Law RSA 170-E:34 requires that the foster family home be inspected by the local fire department and that the fire code for a single family residence shall be applied by local fire departments in their review of compliance with local ordinances for family homes.

On the following pages you will find a self-evaluation guide and a checklist.

Before calling for an inspection, please take a few minutes to do a self-evaluation of the home to become familiar with the types of things that the inspector will be looking for.

Once you are confident that you are ready for an inspection, call the Manchester Fire Prevention Bureau and ask to speak with an inspector. Please refer to the following checklist. This is a general checklist and is intended as a guide only.

A Manchester Fire Inspector can be reached at (603) 669-2256.



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Fire Inspection Self-Evaluation Study Guide

Life Safety Inspection

Foster Homes

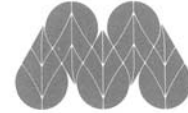
This list is intended only as a guide. It may be helpful to review this list before calling your local inspector. A Manchester Fire Prevention Inspector may be reached at 669-2256.

- **Does every room used for living, sleeping or dining purposes have at least two exits? One of these may be a window that is of sufficient size for the occupant to escape through.**
- **Is any space intended for living, sleeping or dining accessible only by ladder or folding stairs? If so, it will not be approved.**
- **If the basement is to be used, does it exit directly at ground level?**
- **In exiting homes, can the windows from the sleeping areas of the house be opened to a size that allows the occupant to easily escape through them?**
- **Are all doors in the travel path to an exit at least 28 inches wide?**
- **Can all the closet doors be opened from the inside?**
- **Can every bathroom door be opened a minimum width of 24 inches from the outside in the event of an emergency?**
- **Is there non-rated wall paneling in the house? All wall paneling must have a minimum of Class "C" Rating.**
- **Does the home have appropriate smoke detectors? In the city of Manchester, they must be hard wired and there must be one on every level of the home. State law requires that smoke detectors be installed in every sleeping room. (It is strongly suggested that smoke detection devices be interconnected)**
- **Is there at least a size 5BC fire extinguisher mounted in the kitchen near an exit? If you do not have an extinguisher, we recommend that you purchase a 3A-20 BC, as this will extinguish any type of fire.**
- **Are the electrical circuits properly fused? Most homes have a 14-gauge electrical wire, which calls for a 15 amp or smaller fuse or breaker.**
- **No more than two children under the age of two are to be cared for at any one time.**



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Chief of Department

Self-Inspection Checklist

Life Safety Inspection

Foster Care Providers

Date ____/____/____

Name _____ Telephone _____

Street Address _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

- | | Yes | No |
|--|------|------|
| 1. Does the home have at least one <i>working</i> smoke detector on each floor?
In the City of Manchester, they must be hard wired and there must be on one every level of the home. State law requires that smoke detectors be installed in ever sleeping room. (It is strongly suggested that smoke detection devices be interconnected) | ____ | ____ |
| 2. Does the home have at least one <i>working</i> fire extinguisher (UL approved)?
If you do not have an extinguisher, we recommend that you purchase a 3A-20 BC, as this will extinguish any type of fire. | ____ | ____ |
| 3. Does the home have at least two ways out from each floor level (windows, staircases, etc.)? | ____ | ____ |
| 4. Are any living spaces accessible only by ladder or folding stairs?
If so, the space is unacceptable. | ____ | ____ |
| 5. Does the basement exit directly to ground level?
Exiting through a bulkhead or stairs is unacceptable. | ____ | ____ |
| 6. Can all of the windows in the sleeping areas of the home be opened to a size that allows an occupant to escape? | ____ | ____ |
| 7. Are all of the doors in the travel path to an exit a minimum of 28 inches in width? | ____ | ____ |
| 8. Are all of the closet doors in the home operable from the inside? | ____ | ____ |
| 9. Are all of the bathroom doors a minimum of 24 inches in width? | ____ | ____ |
| 10. Are all of the electrical outlets properly fused?
Most homes are wired with 14 gauge wire which calls for a 15 amp or smaller fuse or breaker. | ____ | ____ |
| 11. Are coal and wood stoves installed and maintained in a safe manner? | ____ | ____ |
| 12. Does the home have a written evacuation plan? | ____ | ____ |
| 13. Is the home free of obvious fire hazards?
(i.e. trash, discarded furniture, etc.) | ____ | ____ |